

Lawsuit promises new dirt on ADL-FBI ties

by Our Special Correspondent

A 10-year Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) dispute between *EIR* correspondent Scott Thompson and the Federal Bureau of Investigation is winding its way through the federal courts, and promises to unearth previously hidden details of more than 60 years of collusion between the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and the Bureau. Already, the FBI has turned over more than 10,000 pages of correspondence and reports, reflecting a deep alliance between the FBI and the self-described Jewish civil rights group which was caught last year spying on thousands of domestic political activists and groups. Among the groups and individuals upon which the ADL was caught spying were leftist, anti-apartheid, civil rights, and labor organizations. Even Dr. Martin Luther King was a target of ADL snooping. The ADL's King files were transmitted to the late FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover personally.

Over the past year, an FOIA suit brought by Thompson reached an impasse over the FBI's refusal to turn over what are believed to be thousands of additional pages of confidential data relating to the FBI-ADL collusion in the "Get LaRouche" task force, a public and private agency group that worked to frame up American statesman Lyndon LaRouche. The suit focuses upon files in three FBI field offices—New York, Minneapolis, and Richmond, Virginia.

Courtroom testimony in other proceedings has already confirmed that the ADL contaminated federal and state prosecutions of LaRouche and his associates.

The first acknowledged ADL communiqué to the Bureau on LaRouche was transmitted in 1975. In 1979, a delegation of top ADL officials, including then-Chairman Burton Joseph, National Director Nathan Perlmutter, and Justin Finger, met with incoming FBI Director William Webster to get his agreement for joint targeting of LaRouche and his associates. When taped admissions of this, obtained by *EIR*, were forwarded to Attorney General Griffin Bell, he ordered an investigation. But, the investigation was assigned to the FBI, which claimed that it could find no evidence to support the charge.

Other FBI documents released in the FOIA case show that, after that meeting in 1979, Webster named an FBI assistant director to receive reports from the ADL, and assigned Assistant FBI Director Neil Welch to arrange for the FBI to conduct a security survey of the ADL's New York office—a flagrant violation of FBI guidelines.

From the documents that have been released, the following highlights of ADL-FBI "liaison" have been culled:

- From the 1940s through 1960s, Assistant FBI Director Louis B. Nichols was in constant contact with top ADL officials. He personally protected Dore Schary, who served as ADL national chairman during the 1960s, from fellow FBI agents who had accumulated evidence that Schary was a "Communist fellow traveler" and lifetime associate of National Crime Syndicate figure Abner Zwillman.

Very special treatment

- On Feb. 5, 1979, after the meeting between incoming FBI Director Webster and the ADL leadership, Webster wrote in a letter to Perlmutter: "Any information which you might wish to share with us should be communicated to Deputy Director James O. Ingram at FBI Headquarters. . . . With respect to security measures for your prospective headquarters in New York, I suggest that you contact Assistant Director Neil Welch at our New York Office. He will be pleased to assist you." On Feb. 26, 1979, Justin J. Finger wrote Assistant Director Welch (with a copy sent to Webster) that an FBI security team had made several recommendations that were followed, including hiring a private security consultant.

Eight years later, Lt. Col. Oliver North would be indicted for exactly the same kind flagrant misuse of government funds for private security!

Was this upgraded FBI concern over ADL headquarters security a reflection of a deal between the two entities to create a private domestic spy apparatus? After all, Cointelpro had been virtually shut down after congressional hearings, and guidelines had been passed blocking the FBI from running such a program again.

- After a meeting between ADL National Director Perlmutter and FBI officials in New York, a Feb. 4, 1985 airtel was released by FBI Headquarters in the name of Webster. The order called for liaison between all ADL and 24 FBI field offices in "civil rights matters." "Each receiving office should contact the Regional ADL Director(s) listed in your Division and establish this liaison," the airtel read. Documents from dozens of FBI Field Offices across the country show that they did precisely that.

- On Dec. 10, 1986, Perlmutter wrote Webster after yet another meeting: "You may recall that one of the items our ADL group discussed with you was a proposed lecture on prejudice and extremism to be given periodically at the FBI academy in Quantico by an ADL person." The lecturer whom Perlmutter designated was ADL Fact Finding Director Irwin Suall. After further negotiation, Deputy Assistant Director of the Criminal Investigative Division Thomas F. Jones wrote Suall on Nov. 21, 1989, confirming: "Your remarks will be attended by approximately 50 FBI Supervisory Special Agents who are responsible for the supervision of the Civil Rights Program at the field level."

Suall has been publicly identified as the head of the ADL's illegal spy apparatus that was busted by the San Francisco Police Department last year.